REMARKS

In the Office Action dated 28 March 2003 claims 7, 9 10, 12-15, 17, and 22 were allowed, claims 1, 3, 19, 20, and 23 were rejected and claims 4, 6, and 18 were objected to.

In response to the Office Action, the Applicants cancelled the rejected claims 1, 3, 19, 20, and 23. Claims 4, 6, and 18 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim, and are thus believed to be allowable as indicated by the examiner. The allowed but dependant claim 17 now includes the limitations of previous claim 1 and has been rewritten in independent form. New claim 24 has been added.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicant believes that the present application and claims 4, 6-7, 9-10, 12-15, 17-18, 22 and 24 are in proper condition for allowance. Such allowance is earnestly requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 19-0615 (57.0329) any applicable fees or credits.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Schlather

Registration No.: 45,081

Date: July 28th 253 Stephen Schlather Schlumberger Technology Corporation IP Dept., Well Stimulation 110 Schlumberger Drive, MD1 Sugarland, Texas 77478